

Raising The Roof? Choose Right Materials

Whether you're in the market for a new primary home for comfortable everyday living, or a second home just for leisure - time fun, raising the right roof should be one of your most important considerations.

Why? Because the roof you raise will not only be your new home's main defense against the elements, it will also have a lot to do with its vulnerability to fire.

With that in mind, here are some things you should know about roofing materials, to help you put a ceiling on possible hazards:

ASPHALT SHINGLES. The most popular type of roofing these come in a wide variety of colors and shapes and offer years of good service. Conventional asphalt shingles are made with an organic base, are rated Class C by Underwriters Laboratories, and provide only basic protection against light fire exposure.

WOOD SHINGLES and shakes. Though beautiful, cedar shingles and shakes are not fire-resistant, which is why some cities no longer permit them to be used unless they are chemically treated.

SLATE and TILE shingles. Both slate and tile shingles are good-looking and long-lasting. Their Class A fire rating means protection against severe fire exposure. They weigh a lot, however, and a home must be very sturdy to bear their weight.

ASBESTOS CEMENT shingles. These Class A shingles are strong, durable and fire-resistant, cost less and weigh less than slate or tile, but cost more and weigh more than fiber glass shingles.



The Green Thumb

By GEORGE ABRAHAM

Giant pumpkins again: home gardeners who sowed pumpkin seeds are reminded that some of the little seedlings should be thinned out, leaving the best two plants in each spot.

This year we've sent out 10,000 packets of sunflower and pumpkin seeds, thanks to the Men's Garden Club of America, who made the seeds available.

For real giant pumpkins wait until each plant has three

or four fruits, then save the largest and carefully prune off all others regularly for the rest of the season. Be sure to water the plants during dry periods. Water whenever necessary and feed a liquid plant food several times during the season to produce extra large fruits.

Soak the soil to a depth of at least six inches rather than sprinkling the garden lightly more often. The secret is to get water down to the roots of the plant. About one inch of water a week.

WHY PEONIES FAIL: There are several reasons why peonies fail to bloom: Too much shade, especially in dry soil under trees, planting too deeply is another cause for poor flowering. Young, developing buds or "eyes" of the roots should never be planted deeper than two inches below the soil surface. Also, some peonies just are shy or stubborn bloomers. Someone should make up a list of those that seldom bloom.

Botrytis blight is another reason for non-flowering. This is a fungus disease which causes the buds to turn brown, then black and shrivel up, without opening. Ants are often seen on peony buds, but they have nothing to do with blighting. Some people feel the ants are there to "cross-pollinate" but this is not true. They collect the sweet nectar produced by the developing buds and do not damage the plant.

6 Scholars Join PBK

Six Wayne State University students from Observerland have been elected to the Gamma Chapter of Phi Beta Kappa, honorary scholastic fraternity.

Phi Beta Kappa is the oldest and most prestigious honorary fraternity in the United States.

The new Phi Beta Kappa members will be initiated in ceremonies at 5 p.m. Monday, June 19, in the WSU Community Arts Auditorium. A reception will follow in the

Alumni Lounge adjoining the auditorium.

The initiates are seniors Deborah Manford, 32760 Maplewood, Garden City; Timothy O'Brien, 29721 Hathaway, Livonia; Michael Schenden, 37047 Munger, Livonia; and juniors Jeffrey Berger, 26590 Scenic Highway, Franklin; Martin Levinson, 19428 Birch Ridge, Southfield; Southfield; and Steven Rapp, 22711 Wrexford, Southfield.

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Golden Rain Tree Summer Blooming with Golden Flowers 7-9' b&b **25⁰⁰**

Radiant Crabs Red flowers in spring Bright foliage tinged with red 5-6' b&b **6⁹⁵** 6-7' potted **15⁰⁰** 8' b&b **25⁰⁰**

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